

Message Text

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10/22

ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT---PARAGRAPH 4.)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TU, OVIP (IHSAN SABRI CAGLAYANGIL)

SUBJ: POSTPONEMENT AND RESCHEDULING OF CAGLAYANGIL'S VISIT

REF: STATE 032224

1. I HAD HALF-HOUR MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL THIS MORNING, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10. I OPENED BY CONVEYING SECRETARY'S ORAL MESSAGE WHICH CAGLAYANGIL RECEIVED WITH APPRECIATION.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL SAID FIRST WEEK IN MARCH WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR HIM. HE THEN PROCEEDED TO GIVE ME A LIST OF HIS MARCH ENGAGEMENTS. HE SAID FIRST AND SECOND OF MARCH HE HAD TO BE IN BRUSSELS FOR EC MINISTERIAL. ON MARCH 6 HE HAD TO BE BACK IN ANKARA TO RECEIVE FRG ECONOMICS MINISTER WHO WAS COMING ON INVITATION OF GOT. ON MARCH 8 BULGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WAS PAYING OFFICIAL VISIT TO ANKARA. MARCH 15-17, DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD LIKEWISE BE COMING HERE FOR OFFICIAL VISIT. EARLIEST DATES HE WOULD BE FREE FOR WASHINGTON VISIT WOULD BE PERIOD MARCH 22-29. CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOT AMBASSADORS IN BRUSSELS AND BONN TO SEE IF THERE COULD BE CHANGES OF DATES OF THE EC MEETING OR THE GERMAN ECONOMIC

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MINISTER'S VISIT WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO COME TO WASHINGTON

BETWEEN THESE TWO EVENTS. REACTION OF BOTH HAD BEEN NEGATIVE.

3. CAGLAYANGIL THEN LAUNCHED INTO A LENGTHY APOLOGIA (WHICH HE ASKED ME NOT TO REPORT) FOR THE EVENTS OF THIS PAST WEEKEND. HE SAID THAT HE HAD WRITTEN HIS MESSAGE FROM BAGHDAD BASED ON INFORMATION WHICH LATER PROVED MISLEADING. HE HAD BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT MRS. KISSINGER'S OPERATION WAS TO TAKE PLACE ON FEBRUARY 12 WHICH WAS KEY DAY OF HIS PROJECTED VISIT. THIS CAUSED HIM TWO CONCERNS. THE FIRST WAS PROTOCOL. HE SAID: QUOTE: I AM NOT THE FIRST FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT WASHINGTON. THERE IS A REGULAR PROGRAM FOR THIS TYPE OF VISIT. IF IT HAD NOT BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THE SECRETARY TO ATTEND THE DINNER I INTENDED TO OFFER HIM, THE TURKISH OPPOSITION WOULD HAVE SEIZED ON THIS AND MADE INVIDIOUS COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE TREATMENT I RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON, AND THAT ACCORDED TO, SAY, AN ARAB FOREIGN MINISTER. UNQUOTE. HIS SECOND CONCERN HAD BEEN THE FACT THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER WOULD HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIABLY PREOCCUPIED WITH MRS. KISSINGER'S CONDITION AND THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE NECESSARY ATMOSPHERE FOR CALM NEGOTIATIONS. HE WENT ON TO INTIMATE VERY STRONGLY (AND THIS HE GAVE AS THE REASON FOR HIS REQUEST THAT I NOT REPORT THESE REMARKS) THAT THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD NOT GIVEN HIM, IN A TIMELY WAY, INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS, I.E., THAT MRS. KISSINGER HAD ALREADY BEEN SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED ON AND THAT THE SECRETARY COULD NOT HAVE ATTENDED HIS DINNER. (COMMENT: I DO NOT KNOW HOW THIS SQUARES WITH THE FACTS AS KNOWN IN WASHINGTON. OUR OWN COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES HOWEVER, ARE, I BELIEVE, FASTER AND MORE ACCURATE THAN THOSE OF TURKISH FOREIGN OFFICE. I WOULD THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT IN FUTURE PLANNING OF VISITS TO WASHINGTON BY SENIOR TURKISH OFFICIALS, DEPARTMENT KEEP US CURRENTLY INFORMED OF DISCUSSIONS GOING ON IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND TURKISH EMBASSY THERE. END COMMENT.)

4. WE AGREE THAT THE TEXT OF THE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE: BECAUSE OF MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS, IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO POSTPONE FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYANGIL'S SCHEDULED FEBRUARY 11-12 VISIT TO WASHINGTON. THE VISIT WILL BE

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RESCHEDULED FOR THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MUTUALLY AGREED DATE.
END QUOTE.

5. I THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT I WAS CONCERNED THAT SO MUCH TIME MIGHT ELAPSE BEFORE FOREIGN MINISTER COULD VISIT WASHINGTON. I SAID I WAS SPEAKING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT IT SEEMED TO ME THAT SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG AND AMBASSADOR MACOMBER HAD DONE A GOOD JOB IN PRESSING THE

MUTUAL SECURITY NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD TO THE POINT WHERE A MINIMUM OF ISSUES REMAINED TO BE RESOLVED. (AT THIS POINT, CAGLAYANGIL INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY REQUESTED BOTH ELEKDAG AND THE TURKISH GNERAL STAFUTO SHOW THE UTMOST FLEXIBILITY.) THE ISSUES THAT REMAINED, I SAID, MIGHT WELL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED AT THE MINSTERIAL LEVEL. WHAT WORRIED ME WUEYTHAT IN THE INTERIM BETWEEN NOW AND POSSIBLE MINISTERIAL NEGOTIATIONS, THERE COULD BE MORE DRIFT AND ATTRITION. I THEREFORE HOPED THAT ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT SOMEHOW BE ALTERED TO PERMIT FONMIN TO MAKE AN EARLY MARCH VISIT. CAGLAYANGIL HEARD ME OUT CAREFULLY. HIS ONLY COMMENT WAS "PEKI" ("VERY GOOD") AND HE THEN LEFT THE ROOM TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER.

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